



West Point Instructors lend a helping hand

Story and photo by Spc. Brian Anderson

MNC-I PAO

The United States Military Academy at West Point has produced such leaders as Ulysses S. Grant, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Robert E. Lee and H. Norman Schwarzkopf.

The list of alumni West Point has produced begs the questions, who taught them? Why doesn't the Army utilize these instructors during this time of war?

Well the truth be told, the Army is utilizing its instructors. In fact, there are two West Point instructors at Victory Base.

Col. Daniel Ragsdale and Maj. Beth A. Behn are both instructors at the prestigious academy, and they are both here in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Ragsdale, deputy commander, 17th Field Artillery Brigade, Victory Base Complex Garrison Command, is a permanent professor in the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department at West Point.

Behn, terrain manager, is a professor in the history department at the academy. Both Ragsdale and Behn volunteered to be here and are making a difference, said Col. Carlton Reid, 17th Field Artillery Brigade commander.



Maj. Beth A. Behn, terrain manager, points out an area of concern to Col. Daniel Ragsdale, deputy commander, 17th Field Artillery Brigade. Behn and Ragsdale are instructors at the United States Military Academy at West Point temporarily deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Ragsdale not only volunteered, but he helped share the request with the Academy's leadership and faculty leading to two other officers deploying," Reid continued.

Ragsdale is here for a year, focusing his time on base operations.

"I manage all operations of the camp, to include power, drainage, construction, repair," said Ragsdale, "it's kind of the role of a city manager. It is all the civic work that needs to be done throughout the complex."

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Prayer breakfast honors black history

Story and photo by Spc. James Hunter

MNC-I PAO

Soldiers from the 415th Military Intelligence Tactical Expeditionary Battalion, Louisiana Army National Guard, joined to celebrate Black History Month during a prayer breakfast at the Coalition Dining Facility Tuesday.

The breakfast brought the Soldiers together to reflect upon the African American community, how far they have come as a culture and how involved they are in society, said Command Sgt. Major Lamar A. Davis, command sergeant major, 415th MI TEB.

"Going through the missions and

going through the internal and external battles, I think it's very important for Soldiers to have something to hold onto," he said. "As we go through the prayer breakfast it gives us a time of solitude and reflection that we can use to strengthen us to go forward and to continue with our mission."

During the breakfast, Soldiers listened to scriptures and passages, the voices of troops singing "God Bless America" and "Wade in the Water," excerpts from a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. speech, "I've been
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In today's Victory Times:

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Inspector General's notes

"Corrective Training" an Effective Tool for Soldier Development

Sgt. 1st Class Libbie Adams
MNC-I IG Office

Military discipline is founded upon self-discipline, respect for properly constituted authority, and the embracing of the professional Army ethic with its supporting individual values. Military discipline is developed by individual and group training to create a mental attitude resulting in proper conduct and prompt obedience to lawful military authority. Military authority is exercised with promptness, firmness, courtesy, and justice. When minor infractions occur and corrections need to be made, one of the most effective non-punitive measures available to leaders is corrective training or instruction, including on-the-spot correction. A Soldier's commander or any noncommissioned officer in the Soldier's supervisory chain may authorize corrective training. But before leaders institute corrective training, they should ensure that the training meets the following criteria:

1. The training, instruction, or correction given to a Soldier to correct deficiencies must be directly related to the deficiency.
2. Corrective measures must be oriented to improving the Soldier's performance in his problem area and may be taken after normal duty hours.
3. Such measures assume the nature of training, not punishment, and should continue only until the training deficiency is overcome.

Leaders must remember not to use extra training and instruction as punitive measures. If Soldiers perceive the training or instruction

as punishment, all training or instruction value could be lost or useless. Also, a member of the Soldier's chain of command should be present and supervising the training session. The following example illustrates the proper use of corrective training:

A Soldier is found with a dirty rifle. As corrective training, his squad leader makes him attend a class on proper weapons care and maintenance and have his rifle cleaned and inspected twice a day until the deficiency is corrected.

The next example illustrates the *improper* use of corrective training:

A Soldier is repeatedly late for formation. As corrective training, his platoon sergeant makes her clean the battalion headquarters for two weeks after duty hours.

Corrective training is not punishment and should not be confused with extra duty imposed as punishment under Article 15, UCMJ. The form of extra duty, unlike corrective training, does not have to be related to the Soldier's misconduct. Commanders need to ensure that corrective training is not used in an oppressive manner and must use written counseling and non-judicial punishment under Article 15, UCMJ for Soldiers who fail to respond to proper corrective training for repeated minor offenses. For more information on corrective training, refer to AR 600-20, *Army Command Policy*, paragraph 4-6 and AR 27-10, *Military Justice*, paragraph 3-3c.

Tax Information

As all of us are acutely aware, tax season is upon us once again! The good news is Client Services is here to assist with questions and provide information regarding extensions.

According to the Internal Revenue Service, service members in Iraq are entitled to income exclusions and filing extensions. Therefore, service members are generally NOT required to file while in theater. Service members have up to 180 days to file after the last day of qualifying for combat zone service.

Further information concerning extensions can be found at www.irs.gov/individuals/index.html.

For those who wish to file while deployed, they can give a

trusted individual a Power of Attorney to file for them. This form can also be found at the IRS website under Forms and Publications.

We will assist soldiers who wish to file their taxes or may have questions regarding extensions at the Client Services Office (Bldg # 133), Monday and Friday from 9 – 11:30 am. We look forward to serving you.

Hours of Operation:

Sat. - Thurs. 9 am – 6 pm

Fri. 9 am – 4:30 pm

Contact number: DSN: 822-2864

Camp Victory Three-day forecast

Thursday



AM Light Rain
High: 63 F
Low: 47 F

Friday



Sunny
High: 63 F
Low: 46 F

Saturday



Mostly Sunny
High: 64 F
Low: 44 F

INSTRUCTORS

Behn's six months deployment is dedicated to land management on Victory Base.

"My job involves screening requests made by military units, civilian contractors or other government organizations," she said. "Basically anyone who wants to live or work on the Victory Base complex has to be given a space to do that."

"I manage those spaces," Behn continued. "(We give) land deeds that read, tenant, I am giving you this land, here are the conditions I am giving it, here are the reasons I can take it away."

The jobs Ragsdale and Behn are filling are positions that the 17th FAB are not typically tasked to do, Reid said.

"Could we perform these missions

without them? Yes, but with much more difficulty, at a much slower pace, and with less productivity," Reid said.

Although Ragsdale and Behn have a full work load, they are both happy to be here, not only for themselves but for the cadets they will go back to and instruct.

Right now, the number one question cadets have is, what is it like to be deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism? Behn said.

"I can go back and answer that question," she continued.

The two West Point instructors agree that the most important piece of information to pass on to their cadets is how much knowledge both noncommissioned officers and Soldiers possess.

"Our Army is adaptive and smart,"

Ragsdale said. "Our future officers need to be prepared for it, so they can be better leaders."

Behn will be back at West Point in August to finish her last year as an instructor before moving on in her military career.

Ragsdale, who also deployed to Afghanistan for three months in 2002, will return to West Point at the end of his one-year tour and continue his teaching career.

West Point has a mission of its own, but it is able to accommodate the Army's overall mission by temporarily deploying some of its instructors. It increases the work load for other instructors, but it also brings back combat veterans who will be able to offer advice and answer questions about deployments for GWOT.

BREAKFAST

to the Mountaintop," and Maya Angelou's poem "Still I Rise."

Chaplain (Maj.) Stephen A. Sanders, 415th MI TEB, also led the Soldiers in a prayer. "Gracious God we thank you for our land and we pray that it would be a place of justice," he said. "We pray that it would be a place where we are judged by the content of our character and not the color of our skin."

"We pray it will be a place where peace will reign and where people from all races and cultures will come together and learn to appreciate one another," Sanders said. 1st Sgt. Brian K. Jackson, first sergeant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 415th MI TEB, read a scripture describing how children become men and leave their childish acts in the past so they can strive for excellence and become productive members of society.

"When I was a child, I spoke as a child. I understood as a child. I thought as a child," Jackson said. "But when I became a man I put away my childish things." The prayer breakfast brought the Soldiers together to dedicate and celebrate their past, present and future, he said. "We celebrate those heroes who early on knew and put away childish ways in a world in which they fought not only for their country, but they fought segregation in their country," Jackson said. In particular, Jackson mentioned the Tuskegee Airmen.



1st Sgt. Brian Jackson, 415th Tactical Exploitation Battalion, reads scriptures to Soldiers gathered at the Coalition Dining Facility during a Prayer Breakfast Monday. The event was in celebration of African American Black History Month.

Though the country thought African Americans lacked skill, courage and patriotism, these dedicated young men became America's first African American military pilots, he said.

When the prayer breakfast ended, Davis believed that the message of patriotism was instilled into the troops. In the past, the African American community lacked patriotism, he said. Since then, they have contributed to the accomplishments of society. Davis was pleased with the turnout

and cooperation of the Soldiers during the event. The Soldiers messages and speeches showcased their inspiring and motivating efforts to help the nation come together as one.



**You will
get caught.
Is it worth
the risk?**

Chaplain's Corner

FRAGRANCE

But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him. For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. To the one we are the smell of death; to the other, the fragrance of life. And who is equal to such a task? Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, like men sent from God.

2 Corinthians 2:14-17

I am a smeller. I like good smells. I have been that way from birth. When I was a small boy, I would almost put my



Chaplain (Lt. Col.) David Koch
Victory Base Chapel OIC

face in the steaming aroma of just prepared foods and suck up the delicious smells. I did that until a dear friend of the family (which she still is by the way) pushed my face into the dish of just prepared hot German pancakes! I have sniffed from a higher and safer distance, from then on!

I still like good smells. Women's perfumes and men's colognes frequently catch my attention, and I ask, "What is

the name of what you are wearing? It smells great!" This Scripture catches my attention, and I wonder sometimes what I smell like? Am I offensive, or do I draw folks? Do I smell good enough for someone to say in curiosity, "Hey, man, you smell good! What is it?"

I grant you, I am a Chaplain, and I should "smell good." I should not push people away from God. I guess that is the problem with us, isn't it? We are less concerned with WHO we are, than WHAT we are. The rank on our collars or titles on the name plates sitting on our desks – are what defines us, more than the one we hold above all others.

So what do you "smell" like, the alluring fragrance of life that draws folks to our Lord or the fragrance of death, that turns folks away from Him? It is your choice. Do you stink, or smell good?



U.S. Army Spc. Jimmy Wilkes, Company A, 2nd. Battalion, 172nd Stryker Brigade, 1st. Infantry Regiment, provides overwatch security during a patrol, Feb. 5, 2006 in Mosul, Iraq.



A Soldier with Company A, 2nd. Battalion, 172nd Stryker Brigade, 1st. Infantry Regiment, provides overwatch security during a patrol, Feb. 5, 2006 in Mosul, Iraq.

Letters from home

To Staff Sgt. Zachary Moon, Headquarters and Headquarters Brigade, Fifth Corps Artillery,

Hi Baby! I hope you are doing well and staying strong. I hate that we will not be together for Valentine's Day or our anniversary, but you are here in my heart. I wish I had the capability to speed up time so we could be together again. We are all very proud of you at home, and Feline, Cricket, and Noah miss you terribly. We all love you very much and pray for your safe return every day. We love you!!!

Love,
Carrie and the Kids

Want to submit a letter to your deployed loved one? Send your letters to brian.anderson@iraq.centcom.mil. Be sure to include your name and your Soldier's name and unit.

Operating hours

Coalition Cafe

Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.
Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Dinner 5:30 - 8 p.m.
Midnight Dining 11 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Sports Oasis

Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.
Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Dinner 5:30 - 9 p.m.

Shopette

Open 24 Hours

Camp Liberty Post Exchange

Everyday 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Fitness Center

Open 24 Hours

Chapel (Bldg. 31)

Sunday:

Protestant Service 7 and 8:45 a.m.
Catholic Mass 10:30 a.m.
Gospel Service Noon
Mormon (LDS) 2 p.m.
Episcopal 4 p.m.
Full Life Service 6 p.m.

Saturday:

7th Day Adventist 11 a.m.
Catholic Mass 8 p.m.
Mini-Chapel (Bldg. 2)

Friday:

Jewish Service 6:30 p.m.
Eastern Orthodox services:

Saturday:

Vespers 5 p.m.
Confession 5:30 p.m.
Bible Study 7 p.m.

Sunday:

Divine Liturgy 9 a.m.

Post Office

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sunday 1 - 5 p.m.

Golby Troop Medical Clinic

Sick Call Hours:

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon
Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. - noon

Dental Sick Call:

Monday - Friday 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Saturday 9 - 10:30 a.m.

Mental Health Clinic:

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - noon

Post Deployment Health Briefings:

Monday - Friday 1 p.m.

Pharmacy:

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon
Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. - noon

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

10K FUN RUN/WALK




MWR AREA 51
Feb. 19 2006
Show Time 6:30 am
Start Time 7:00 am

Free "T" shirt for the first 200 to complete the run
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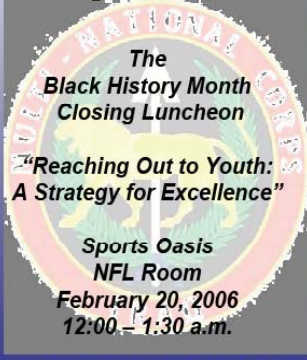
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Al Asad	107.3 FM	Kirkush	107.3 FM
Ali Base	107.3 FM	Mosul	105.1 FM
Ar Ramadi	107.3 FM	Q-West	103.3 FM
Baghdad	107.7 FM	Taj	107.3 FM
Balad	107.3 FM	Tal Afar	107.3 FM
Falujah	105.1 FM	Taqadum	107.3 FM
Kirkuk	107.3 FM	Taurit	100.1 FM

Multi-National Corps - Iraq
presents



The Black History Month Closing Luncheon
"Reaching Out to Youth: A Strategy for Excellence"
Sports Oasis
NFL Room
February 20, 2006
12:00 - 1:30 a.m.

POC for more information is SFC RUMPH at 822-5115
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MNF-IA/MNC-I Human Relations/Equal Opportunity Office

Victory Times welcomes columns, commentaries, articles and letters from our readers. Send submissions or comments to brian.anderson@iraq.centcom.mil.

We reserve the right to edit for security, accuracy, propriety, policy, clarity and space.

DRIVE SAFELY !!

This driver was wearing his seat belt, driving within the speed limit and he was in his proper lane.



The driver of this vehicle had his life tragically altered by a reckless driver.

Don't be the OTHER driver!!

MNC-I Commanding General: Lt. Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli
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MNC-I Command Info Chief: Sgt. 1st Class Laurence R. Lang
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